

CALVIN MERCER
Abbreviated Public Service CV

CITY COUNCIL CONTACT

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WORK CONTACT

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GREENVILLE, NC CITY COUNCIL

- Elected Representative: District 4, 12/07-present
- Liaison at various times: Board of Adjustment, Environmental Advisory Commission, Historic Preservation Commission, Planning and Zoning Commission, Bike and Pedestrian Commission, Public Transportation and Parking Commission, Community Appearance Commission

TEACHING, ADMINISTRATION AND RESEARCH--highlights (email mercerc@ecu.edu for a complete work CV)

Teaching

- East Carolina University: Professor of Religion, 8/10-present; Associate Professor of Religion, 8/90-7/10; Assistant Professor of Religion, 1/85-5/90; Graduate Faculty appointment, full member, 8/94-present.
- Mount Olive College: Professor of Religion, 1/81-12/84.
- Florida A & M University: Instructor of Religion, half-time, 8/79-12/80
- Study Abroad: For several years I directed the largest study abroad program at East Carolina University, and I have served as a consultant on producing successful short-term study abroad programs. Programs were conducted in Belize, Egypt, Greece, Italy, Mexico, Morocco, and Spain.

Teaching Awards

- University "Scholar-Teacher" Award

- UNC Board of Governors Distinguished Professor for Teaching Award

Administration

- East Carolina University: Multidisciplinary Studies Program, Director, 1/98-5/13
- East Carolina University: Religious Studies Program, Director, 8/89-12/05 and 5/13-present; Co-Director, 1/06-5/09

Research

- “Nature Based Tourism GIS Asset Mapping: Finding a Path for Eco-Tourism.” Co-author, with Alex Naar (primary presenter) and Huili Hao (co-presenter and co-author). National Extension Tourism, Charleston, SC, 3/11
- Most of my research (4 books authored or edited, 25 articles) is in the religious and social implications of human enhancement technologies (including radical life extension science), psychology of religion, and Biblical Studies.
- I am one of the few scholars considering the religious and social implications of an important emerging scientific and technological movement, referred to as human enhancement technology. One of the enhancements is radical life extension, a term that refers to science and technology that could provide extreme longevity of *healthy* human life. I co-edited *Religion and the Implications of Radical Life Extension*, published in 2009 by Palgrave Macmillan, and a related volume will appear in 2014. Whether such science should proceed or not is a legitimate question. I want to promote, among academics and faith communities, substantive reflection on this question, which I consider one of the most urgent public debates that needs to happen in this country.

Other

- Therapist: I am trained in clinical psychology and practiced professionally part-time for over a decade.

COMMUNITY SERVICE (representative list)

- Advisory Committee, Pitt County Memorial Hospital School of Clinical Pastoral Education, Greenville, NC, 3/09-5/11
- Ayden-Grifton-Winterville Mental Health Advisory Board, Ayden, NC; 1/94-12/99; member, served on various subcommittees
- Johnston County Harbor Rape and Spouse Abuse Network; 8/88-5/91; co-founder, Board of Directors Chair
- Contact Helpline, Smithfield, NC; 5/84-9/91; Board of Directors, president
- Approximately 75 articles on various topics published in general readership publications.
- Maintains a local and regional “Events” mailing list, providing information about religion-related cultural and/or academic area events. For more information or to get on the list, email mercerc@ecu.edu
- Several years volunteer teaching in the ECU Lifelong Learning Program.

Note: As my schedule permits, I give public lectures on the religious implications of human enhancement technologies (including radical life extension science), humor in the Bible, monks and monasteries, religion and politics, and other topics. For a full list, see my work website or contact me for a full CV.

EDUCATION

- East Carolina University: M.A. (Clinical Psychology), 1997
- Florida State University: Ph.D. (Religion), 1983
- Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary: M.Div. (cum laude), 1977; Th.M., 1979
- University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill: B.A. (Journalism and Psychology), 1975